32

## NOTE.

*Development of the Pharmacy attached to the Government Ayurvedic and Unani College, Mysore.*

The Pharmacy section is open to all classes of people rich and poor. Medicines are prepared to the extent of the grant of Rs. 90 sanctioned for the purpose, and are being distributed as far as available. Due to the limited quantity of medicines at the disposal of the Pharmacy, it has not been possible to continue to prescribe or vend particular medicines to deserving patients, till they get completely cured. When the medicines are exhausted, other available medicines are prescribed, the result being that some patients who would otherwise get discharged earlier are compelled to visit the Dispensary sometime longer. The better and intelligent class of people prefer to buy the prescribed medicines instead of going to the Dispensary day after day and wasting their time. It is, therefore, incumbent in the interest of the Ayurveda and Unani to place the Pharmacy on an efficient footing.

To remedy the existing defects, it is necessary to augment the resources of the Pharmacy Section. To do so without indenting upon extra funds from Government or Local Boards, it is proposed to start a Sales Depot, and offer for sale the required quantity of the medicines prepared out of the monthly normal grant of Rs. 90 and deal the whole concern on a commercial basis. The cost of medicines will be fixed with reference to the value of drug and other materials used and the labour actually required in the preparation.

The Pharmacy and the Sales Depot will be independent of each other and the latter will be debited in value to the extent of the medicines taken out for sale from the Pharmacy. This debit will be reduced as funds are credited with the sale of medicines, or medicines are returned.

The sale rate of the medicines in the Depot will be fixed at double the cost in consideration of technical supervision, contingent charges, etc., though the price of similar medicines sold in the market is three to four times the actual cost. The amounts as realised by sale, will be lodged in the Government Savings Bank in the name of the Vice-President and will be utilized exclusively for the preparation of medicines and as a supplementary resource in addition to the usual grant of Rs. 90 per mensem. As the Labour and incidental charges relative to the preparation of small as well as large quantities of important medicines is almost the same, it may perhaps be possible to reduce the value of medicines with the Development of the Depot.

With the successful working out of this scheme, the following advantages are expected to accrue:—

1. The attendance at the Ayurveda and Unani Dispensaries can be regulated, as the well-to-do class of people prefer to buy medicines for use for several days at a time instead of attending the Hospital every day.
2. The needs of the poor can be served to a greater extent and more costly and efficacious medicines may be made available for them as Rs. 90 plus the profits of the sale depot would be available for preparation of medicines.
3. Genuine patent medicines prepared on scientific lines can be made available to the public.
4. In course of time, the Sales Depot, can be converted into a central pharmacy, wherefrom medicines can be supplied to all Government, District Board, Ayurveda and Unani Dispensaries.
5. Only cash sales will be permitted and the Sale Depot can be closed at any time that private enterprise comes forward to prepare and supply reliable medicines. A similar arrangement is well established in the Cheruthurthi Ayurvedic Samajam Hospital, a philanthropic concern where the free distribution of medicines to the poor is financed almost entirely out of the profits of the commercial section of the pharmacy, there being only a small grant to the institution. The pharmacist of our Ayurvedic College is well conversant with that system.

Early sanction to the Scheme is requested.

T. G. RAMA IYER,
*Vice-President.*